

HUMOR AND WIT.

AMONG the advertisements in a late London paper, we read that "Two sisters want washing."

THE beauty of many of the sermons that are preached, consists in their great length, for if it were not for their length, there would not be much of them.

NEVER look at the girls. They can't bear it; they regard it as an insult. They wear their feathers, furbelows, and frills, merely to gratify their mamma—that's all.

TIMOTHY says the first time he went to court, he felt as if a pink angel had hauled him down a rainbow with a piece of chain lightning, right smack into a pile of down.

STEPHEN A DOUGLAS once remarked, that this government would never be really strong, until some one should be convicted of treason and deliberately hanged. Stephen was not far wrong.

A YOUNG lady recently remarked that she could not understand "what her brother George Henry saw in the girls that he liked them so well; and that for her part, she would not give the company of one young man for that of twenty girls."

A STINGY fellow in making love to a young lady, said that his affections were "riveted upon her." She told him that she did not want to have any dealings with rivets or screws like him. Of course, after that, the fellow couldn't expect to nail her.

HERE, you rascal, walk in and account for yourself. Where have you been so long? "After the girls, father." "Don't you know better than that? Did you ever know me to do so when I was a boy?" "No, but mother did!"

A YOUNG girl who had become tired of single blessedness, wrote to her true swain as follows: "Dear Jim, cum rite of, ef U are cummin at awl. El. Collings is insisting that I shall hev him, and kisses me so koonteractually that I cannot hold out much longer, but will hev to have in."

A YOUNG man fresh from Cornwall, and rather green, was taking an evening walk with a friend, when seeing a placard with "Bill Stickers will be prosecuted," he innocently asked, "Who's Bill Stickers? and what are they going to prosecute him for?"

At a horticultural exhibition in Albany, one of the visitors happened to ask an attendant if a certain plant exhibited, "belonged to the Cactus family." "Cactus family, indeed!" exclaimed the attendant; "it belongs to the Van Rensselaer family."

PRESENTATIONS are getting common. The Captain of a canal boat out West, has just been presented with a service—of five years in the penitentiary, in consideration of the distinguished ability with which he plundered a passenger, and then kicked him overboard.

The following dispatch, says the Toledo Blade, went through by telegraph recently: "Charley and Julia met at S—, yesterday—quarreled and parted forever—met again this morning and parted to meet no more—met again this evening, and were married."

I THINK after all that the India-rubber kind of virtue, that will bend and stretch, just a little, and then fly right back to its place, is safer than the icicle virtue, that is pretty sure to melt, unless you keep it on the north side of the barn all the time; and when it once melts, that is the last of it.

SOME time ago, as an itinerant musician was fiddling at a door not far from an office in Emiskillen, a Conaughtman came out and said: "Here's a penny for you, and play us the 'Protestant Boys,' to see how I can stan' it." Before the tune was more than half played he bawled out with: "Stop that! stop it! I can stan' it no longer; stop, or by jabsers I'll knock you down!"

THE newspapers are in ecstasies about a young lady, on Rock Prairie, seventeen years old, who drives her father's reaping team, and frequently takes a load of grain to market, fifteen miles, and sells it. She plays the piano, sings charmingly, does the honors of the drawing-room with dignity, can make a loaf of bread, or play "Bridget" in ma's kitchen, with equal readiness. She is valued at her weight in gold to a sensible young man.

"CAN you draw, young man?" inquired Quilp, of an applicant for a private tutorship. "Certainly," replied the candidate. "At ten years of age, I could draw either; at twelve, a picture; at fifteen, a hand-cart loaded with cabbages; at sixteen, an inference; at twenty, a bill of exchange. If I were an actor, I believe I could draw the largest kind of a house; but being a teacher, I am content to draw a salary, and the bigger the better." "You'll do!" said Quilp.

Checking Perspiration.

Edward Everett, the finished scholar, the accomplished diplomatist, the orator, the statesman, the patriot, became overheated in testifying in a court room, on Monday morning, went to Faneuil Hall, which was cold, sat in a draft of air until his turn came to speak; he said "my hands and feet were ice, my lungs on fire. In this condition, I had to go and spend three hours in the courtroom." He died in less than a week from this checking of the perspiration. It was enough to kill any man.

Prof. Mitchell, the gallant soldier and the most eloquent astronomical lecturer that has ever lived, while in a state of perspiration in yellow fever, the certain sign of recovery, left his bed, went into another room, became chilled in a moment and died the same night.

If while perspiring, or while something warmer than usual, from exercise or a heated room, there is a sudden exposure to stillness, to a still cold air, or to a raw, damp atmosphere, or to a draft, whether at an open window or door, or street corner, an inevitable result is a violent and instantaneous closing of the pores of the skin, by which waste and impure matters, which were making their way out of the system, are compelled to seek an exit through some other channel, and break through some weaker part, not the natural one, and harm to that part is the result. The idea is presented by saying that the cold is settled in that part. To illustrate:

A lady was about getting into a small boat to cross the Delaware; but wishing first to get an orange at a fruit stand, she ran up the bank of the river, and on her return found herself much heated, for it was summer; but there was a little wind on the water, and the clothing soon felt cold to her. The next morning she had a severe cold, which settled on her lungs, and within a year she died of consumption.

A stout, strong man was working in a garden in May. Feeling a little tired about noon, he sat down in the shade of the house and fell asleep. He waked up chilly. Inflammation of the lungs followed, ending after two years of great suffering, in consumption. On opening his chest, there was such an extensive decay that the yellow matter was scooped out by the cupful.

Multitudes of women lose health and life every year, in one or two ways; by busying themselves in a warm kitchen until weary, and then throwing themselves on a bed or sofa without covering, and perhaps in a room without fire; or by removing the outer clothing, and perhaps changing the dress for a more common one, as soon as they enter the house after a walk or a shopping. The rule should be invariably to go at once to a warm room and keep on all the clothing at least for five or ten minutes. The forehead is perfectly dry. In all weathers, if you have to walk or ride on any occasion, do the riding first.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

Struck Soap.

The bowels of the earth continue to yield wonders. Next to oil, the biggest strike is soap. They have actually struck soap in Oneida county, New York. There is no joke about the matter. A deposit of earthy substance resembling Fuller's earth, has been discovered in that region, which is being excavated and manufactured, with every prospect of yielding a rich reward. Scientific men, who have chemically investigated the properties of this earthy soap, and practical men who have tried it pronounce the article equal to the best Fuller's earth for use in the woolen manufacture, both for fulling and scouring, and when used in the prepared form of soap, for domestic use, it has been pronounced the cheapest and best article that can be produced, its scouring properties being unequalled. The "mine" is being worked and the soap manufactured by a stock association, organized on a popular basis, known as the "Sapon de Terre Company," whose office is on Broadway, New York.

MEN OF THE TIMES.—Give us a man who is up to the spirit of the age—an active man, one who has a steam engine in him, a man of quick ideas and quick motions. Away with your dull, lazy, plodding, snail-gait man, who performs in a day the work of only an hour. "Go ahead," is the true motto. This is an age of railways, steam and telegraphs—an age unfit for plodding men and slow coaches. Think quick—talk quick—eat quick—walk quick—act quick. Fix your eye upon an object and spring at the mark at once. Don't dally on the way and linger and lounge as if you were half asleep. Up and at it like a snapping turtle.

THE country is now divided into five grand military divisions. The following are their names and commanders: Military Division of the Atlantic, Major General Meade; Military Division of the Mississippi, Major General Sherman; Military Division of the Tennessee, Major General Thomas; Military Division of the Southwest, Major General Sheridan; Military Division of the Pacific, Major General Halleck.

Gen. Grant on Negro Suffrage.

The Chicago Tribune states that in conversation with his friends in that city, General Grant remarked that it is too soon to declare that the loyal blacks in the South shall not be allowed to vote. "Aside from the abstract right and the legal problem of what authority can confer or withhold the franchise—whether it be Congress or the States—the question may assume the shape of a political necessity. The Government and people may have to choose between keeping a standing army of one hundred thousand men, at an expense of one hundred million dollars a year to the tax-payers, to support the white minority in the South against the white rebel majority, or of enfranchising the blacks, and thereby enabling them to support the white loyalists." That is a practical argument which will have more weight than the most serious moral philosophizing, and if General Grant decides to hold fast to that view, his opinion and advice will be influential in favor of a policy that is to have as much effect in maintaining the authority of the government in the South, as the military plans of the great commander had in restoring that country to our control.

Gen. Sherman on the Negro Question.

The following report is given of Gen. Sherman's remarks upon the question of negro suffrage in one of his recent speeches in Chicago:

"Averting to the negroes, who have been made free, he said that the Government would require to institute some system of labor, in order that the lands of the South might be cultivated. [Applause.] He wanted those who had been in the South to bear testimony to the condition of these freed negroes. His own personal opinion was that they were not fitted for the exercise of the franchise. [Loud cheers.] He wanted them to get a fair price for their labor—to own and cultivate the lands, but he did not think they were fitted to take part in the legislation of the country. [Renewed cheering.]

Petroleum Items.

The petroleum interest has become very active in that portion of Kentucky which embraces the counties of Grayson, Ohio, Breckinridge, Davies, McLean, and Muhlenburg, and they contain a number of speculators who are examining the lands with a view to buying or leasing, and subjecting them to boring operations. A few wells which, at shallow boring, yield five or six barrels of crude oil per day, have been opened in Davies and McLean, and in the other counties searchers after oil have discovered satisfactory "surface indications." Thomas Sturgeon, of St. Louis, is in Davies county, and has supplied himself with the machinery necessary for boring. Maj. Gen. Daniel Butterfield, Chief of Staff of the army of the Potomac, while it was under command of Hooker, is President of a company of Eastern men who have purchased lands in Grayson county, and is there in person, superintending the company's operations.

The Lexington (Missouri) Company commenced boring about the 20th inst., on the McCausland farm in Lafayette county. They are so confident of finding oil in abundance, that buildings, tanks, derricks, &c., have already been erected.—*Republican.*

BRECKINRIDGE IN HAVANA.—A Havana correspondent notices the arrival there of John C. Breckinridge as follows: "On landing here a wealthy merchant waited on Mr. Breckinridge and put his purse at his disposal, and I also learn that the owners of the hotel where he stays have generously offered to provide him with a comfortable home gratis. Mr. Breckinridge is now staying at a place, as I am assured, where secessionists and people of like persuasion must do congregate. Those who knew him intimately in years gone by say that he is greatly changed. His former robust and vigorous frame has been considerably reduced, and he is frequently lost in fits of abstraction. Instead of, as formerly, being lively and animated in conversation, he is moody and taciturn, speaking only to his intimate friends. He is evidently chewing the bitter cud of reflection and repentance for the wounds inflicted upon his country; and though he expresses no opinions publicly, we may well conceive how melancholy must be his thoughts when he considers 'What now he is and what he might have been.' I hear it is rumored that it is his intention to leave Havana shortly for Spain.

POSTMASTER General Dennison has issued a circular to the Postmasters throughout the United States that in order, as far as possible, to carry out the resolution passed by Congress March 3d, preference in filling vacancies in clerkships should be given to disabled soldiers and sailors.

LOOKING a scolding woman in a room is generally the only way to shut her up.

ALMOST every young lady is public-spirited enough to be willing to have her father's house used as a courthouse.

FARM AND GARDEN.

A Cheap Food for Calves.

A good deal has been said as to the best manner of raising calves. Milk is an expensive food, but for a time at least it must be used as there is nothing that can so well be employed in the early life of the calf. After weaning from milk to whey we are informed the best results are obtained by feeding the sugar beet. Cut in thin slices they soon learn to eat with a voracious appetite. This kind of food makes them sleek and fat. It is a cheap food and there is no danger of overfeeding. Where there are several calves together of different ages, the younger will learn to eat them from the older and thus they can be often fed at a very early age. One point should be observed in raising calves, which has not been generally noticed, and that is, that the calf ought never to be allowed to suck. After the calf has been cleansed by its mother, remove it at once and feed by hand. It will thus be much easier taught to drink its milk, and, never having learned to suck, there will be less danger of its doing so when turned out to run with the herd. There will also be less trouble of calves, when together, sucking each other—a bad habit, which often injures their thrift. When the calf is immediately removed, as above recommended, the mother soon forgets it, and there is much less trouble on this account. We have heard some insist that calves would not thrive so well under this treatment, as when allowed to suck for a few days. Having repeatedly tried both methods, we have become satisfied that this idea is a mere whim, as the calves uniformly do better that are never allowed to suck. We suggest to those about raising stock this season, if they have a supply of sugar beets to try them as a food for calves and note the result.—[Rural New Yorker.

Corn Fodder.

As it is well said that there is "no rose anent its thorn," so even raising corn fodder is not without its drawbacks. And albeit thus far only one side has been seen, yet most subjects have at least two sides, one, at least, rather vexatious.

Land in high condition, well handled, can be made to produce over the highest figure named. It is possible, yet by no means probable, that one farmer in one hundred will take the steps necessary for the highest measure of success. I venture, however, that whoever drills or sows broadcast at least an acre of the large western or Southern corn, will repeat the experiment next year on an enlarged scale.

One serious difficulty is in curing the crop, and this will require care and forethought. The man who first called my attention to the subject, has uniformly cut his up, stocked it around a corn house in large bunches, which have been well saved through the winter, and drawn in as wanted. Stalks will not injure in the barn or shed if set upon the end; but it will require a large amount of storage capacity to house any considerable quantity. Experience will soon find ways enough to store the stalks when once raised. The new beginner must make up his mind to some disappointment before he gets terough with his experiment.—[Country Gentleman.

Growing Plants in Pots.

The advantages are numerous of growing certain plants in pots. Among these, is the opportunity it affords for removing them, at pleasure, from one place to another, whether it be to change the temperature or treatment; or to exhibit them at a distance; or to place them in situations to bloom; or to exchange those past their prime for others just coming to perfection; or to rest them when they are not wanted to grow, or urge them when it is desired to force them on. It enables the grower to imitate any kind of soil adapted to their different natures, although they may be growing all in one place. It insures the convenience of checking their exuberance, by giving them less water, and stinting them for room, or exciting them, by giving plenty of both soil and moisture.

One of the most important of all points connected with pot culture, is that of drainage. All pots have holes to let off the superabundant moisture; but if a pot be merely filled with soil, it will constantly work through these holes, and thus leave the roots hollow and unsupported—or, it could not get away by reason of the shelf or bottom on which it was placed, it would stop the holes altogether, and convert the whole some soil into a hard, impervious cake, or white, wet—a muddy mass. Therefore, there should be, first, a piece of broken pot over the hole, not fitting close, and above this a quantity of other broken pieces of pot, charcoal, or other coarse, rough stuff, filling one-fourth of the pot in height—the top portion of these broken pots being smaller than the others. The soil would then give out its moisture all alike, instead of being wasted to the single outlet.

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